

LIMONIUM PLANT NAMED 'DANLISADABLUE'

Latin name of the genus and species of the claimed plant:

Limonium altaica

Variety denomination:

Danlisadablue

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Limonium* plant, botanically known as *Limonium altaica*, hereinafter referred to by the 'Danlisadablue'.

Limonium, of the *Plumbaginaceae* family, is commonly known as sealavender. *Limonium* is found wild on sea coasts and marshes across the Northern Hemisphere.

The new cultivar originated from an open pollination of *Limonium* plants within a breeding program field, discovered in a controlled environment in Moshav Hashiva, Israel. The female parent is a proprietary cultivar designated 'DLB' (unpatented). The male parent is unknown. 'Danlisadablue' was discovered and selected by the inventor, Gabriel Danziger, as a flowering plant within the progeny of the open pollination program in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel.

A sexual reproduction of the new cultivar by tissue culture was first performed in August, 2001 in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel, and has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for the new cultivar are firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction. The new cultivar reproduces true-to-type.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of 'Danlisadablue' which in combination distinguish this *Limonium* as a new and distinct cultivar:

- 5 1. Blue flower color, RHS 93B;
2. Red bud color; RHS 60 C
3. Stem height of 70-90cm;
4. Panicle type stem branching; and
5. Yield of stems per plant in the first flash: 6-10 stems.

10 'Danlisadablue' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary significantly with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and daylength without any change in the genotype of the plant. The following observations, measurements and values describe the new cultivar as grown in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel under
15 conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice.

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the present inventor, the most similar in comparison to 'Danlisadablue' is cultivar 'Tall Emille' (unpatented). 'Danlisadablue' is distinct from 'Tall Emille' in its narrow shaped inflorescence compared to the open and wide shaped inflorescence of 'Tall Emille'.

20

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying photographic drawings illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Limonium* showing the colors as true as is reasonably possible with color reproductions of this type. The photographic drawing shows a side view of a

'Danlisadablue' plant. The first photograph shows a top view of a flowering

'Danlisadablue' plant. The second photograph shows a side view of a flowering

'Danlisadablue' plant.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

- 5 The following observations, measurements and values describe the new cultivar as grown in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel, in Mediterranean climate at sea level, under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice. Irrigation and Fertilization use is common to commercial practice for *Limonium* plants. Color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society
- 10 Colour Chart (RHS) (published 2001) except where general colors of ordinary significance are used. Color values were taken under daylight conditions at approximately 10:00 AM in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel. The age of the plant described was 1 year old, in its second flush and the stem which used to determine the RHS colour was at 30-50% open flower stage.

15 PLANT:

General Appearance and Form:

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| Height: | 70-90cm |
| Spread: | 40-50 cm |
| Growth habit: | Erect |
- 20 Growth rate: 7-9 weeks from planting to the first bloom.
- Branching habit and description: Panicle
- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Flowering stem length: | 80-90cm |
| Flowering Response: | Day natural |

Flowering Season: Year round, spring, summer and autumn in open field,
winter in a greenhouse.

Winter Hardiness/weather tolerance: Frost tender

Postproduction longevity: 2 weeks

5 Rooting Habit: Tissue culture room

Time to initiate roots: Once tissue culture plantlets show small roots,
plantlets are transferred from the tissue culture
medium to a peat soil, then placed in 100% humid
condition for 7-14 days at 18-35⁰ C, then the
10 plantlets are transferred to regular irrigation and
fertilization.

Time to produce a rooted cutting: 70-45 days from the arrival from the
tissue culture laboratory until the plants are ready to plant.

Fragrance: None

15 STEMS:

Appearance: Panicle

Aspect: Stable, Erect

Length: 70-90cm

Texture: Smooth

20 Color: Green Group RHS 139A

FOLIAGE:

Overall Shape of Leaf: Obovate

Apex: Obtuse

Base: Cuneate

Length: 15-30cm

Width: 4-6cm

Margin: Entire

Texture: Smooth

5 Color of Upper Surface:

Mature leaf: Green Group RHS 136A

Immature leaf: Green Group RHS 136A

Color of Lower Surface:

Mature leaf: Green Group RHS 136B

10 Immature leaf: Green Group RHS 136B

Venation: None

Petiole:

Length: 3- 12cm

Diameter: 3- 4mm

15 Color: Green Group RHS 141C

INFLORESCENCE:

Flower type and habit: Erect, trumpet shaped

Flower size: Diameter 0.5-0.8mm, depth 0.5mm

Overall shape: Trumpet-shaped.

20 Calyx:

Shape: Tubular

Length: 0.5 mm

Width: 1 mm

Margin: Entire

Texture: Smooth

Color when opening: White at the base and light violet at the top.

Color when fully open: White at the base and light violet at the top.

Corolla:

5 Number of petals: 5

Shape: Round saucer-shaped

Diameter: 5-7mm

Length: 3 mm

Width: 1 mm

10 Apex: Obtuse

Margin: Entire

Texture: Smooth

Color when opening:

Upper surface: Violet-Blue Group RHS 93B

15 Lower surface: Violet-Blue Group RHS 93B

Color when fully open:

Upper surface: RHS 93B

Lower surface: RHS 93C

Sepals:

20 Quantity: 4

Shape: Oval when stretched out and semi tubular on the plant.

Length: 2-4 mm

Width: 1-2 mm

Form: Alternate, very dense

Color: Green and transparent .

Upper surface: Green RHS 141C

Lower surface: Green RHS 141C

Bud:

5 Color: Red RHS 60 C

Shape: Oblong

Length: 2-3mm

Diameter: 1mm

Peduncle description: Borne from 2 Sepals, 4 mm long, smoth texture, color
10 RHS 141C).

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS:

Stamen: 5 in number, white in color

Anthers: 5 in number, 0.5 – 1 mm in length; color brown-black

Pistil: 5 in number

15 Stigma: Filament, white in color

Style: Filament, white in color

Ovary: Green in color

Seeds:

Width: 1 mm

20 Length: 2 mm

Shape: Oval

Color: Brown

Fruit: White-brown in color

Pollen: Yellow in color; 50 – 100 on each anther

DISEASE RESISTANCE: Unknown